

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 013822
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 013822

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 0270 ACTION SECSTATE
INFO ACCRA 17 JAN 77

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 0270

ACCRA FOR HOROWITZ

IO FOR PALMER

PASS LABOR FOR SEGALL, QUACKENBUSH, AVERY AND LINSEN-
MAYER

PASS COMMERCE FOR UPTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLAB, ILO

SUBJ: ILO: WORKING PARTY ON STRUCTURE

REF: (A) GENEVA 9690, (B) STATE 10112, (C) KINSHASA 382,
(D) STATE 10111

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1. SUMMARY: EC NINE WERE UNABLE TO AGREE LAST WEEK
ON COUNTER-PROPOSAL TO G77 PROPOSAL MADE AT DECEMBER
MEETING (REF A). THE NINE CONCLUDED THAT WITHOUT
A WESTERN PROPOSAL, AN IMPASSE WITH THE G77 WAS
LIKELY AND THAT THERE WAS NO DISADVANTAGE IF THE
IMPASSE OCCURRED AT THE FEBRUARY 7 MEETING RATHER
THAN AT A LATER MEETING. THE UK TOLD US TODAY THAT

THEY AND THE NINE WILL NOT OPPOSE A U.S. MOVE FOR POSTPONEMENT AND WOULD PROBABLY SUPPORT US. THE NINE ARE NOW LOOKING FOR A U.S. PROPOSAL WHICH THEY AND THE IMEC GROUP CAN SUPPORT. END SUMMARY.

2. BOTH THE DUTCH AND THE UK TOLD US THAT THE NINE WERE UNABLE TO AGREE ON THE AGO PROPOSAL (REF A) BECAUSE (1) THE DUTCH, DANES AND IRISH DO NOT SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF NON-ELECTIVE SEATS IN THE GOVERNING BODY AND (2) BECAUSE A "VAGUE" FRENCH POSITION DID NOT SUPPORT THE AGO PLAN; THIS VAGUENESS CONTRASTED WITH FRENCH SUPPORT FOR AGO THROUGH THE END OF DECEMBER AND SEEMED TO INDICATE A CHANGE OF THINKING BY THE GOF. AGO AND FORWARD ATTENDED THE NINE MEETING. FORWARD REPORTED THAT HOOROWITZ HAD EXPRESSED FIRM U.S. OPPOSITION TO ANY STRUCTURAL CHANGE DURING MEETINGS IN PARIS IN THE FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY. FORWARD TOLD THE NINE THAT HOROWITZ SAID IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE IF ILO STRUCTURE WERE CHANGED IN A WAY THAT MADE THE U.S. DECIDE NOT TO PARTICIPATE AFTER NOVEMBER (THE DUTCH TOLD US THIS HARD U.S. POSITION WOULD CHANGE THE CONSIDERATIONS BY HIS GOVERNMENT). THE NINE CONSIDERED POSTPONEMENT OF THE FEBRUARY 7 MEETING BUT CONCLUDED IT WOULD SERVE NO USEFUL PURPOSE. THE UK TOLD US THAT WITHOUT FRENCH SUPPORT, THE AGO PROPOSAL WAS DEAD AND IN THE ABSENCE OF ANOTHER WESTERN COUNTER-PROPOSAL, THEY FELT THE FEBRUARY 7 MEETING WAS LIKELY TO END IN AN IMPASSE AND LEAD TO A CONFRONTATION IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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JUNE CONFERENCE WITH THE G77.

3. IN "PERSONAL" REMARKS, THE UK (ALEXANDER) TOLD US THAT IF THE U.S. INTENDS TO TABLE A COUNTERPROPOSAL, THE UK AND THE NINE WOULD LIKE TO BE CONSULTED IN ADVANCE. ALEXANDER SAID THE UK SEES STRUCTURAL NEGOTIATIONS AS LEADING TO A POINT WHERE THE WESTERN CHIEF STATES OF INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE WOULD FACE A DECISION TO VETO G77 REFORMS. IN ORDER TO EXERCISE THE ARTICLE 36 VETO, THE UKG WANTS A SCENARIO WHERE A "REASONABLE" IMEC PROPOSAL HAS BEEN REJECTED BY THE 77 AND WHERE THE CHIEF STATES THEN USE THEIR VETO AGAINST "UNREASONABLE" G77 PROPOSALS. HE ALSO POINTED OUT A DIFFERENCE IN PERCEPTION BETWEEN THE U.S. ON THE ONE HAND THE THE UK, FRG, ITALY AND BELGIUM ON THE OTHER HAND; THE LATTER BELIEVE IT IS UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT THAT THE STATUS QUO CAN BE MAINTAINED. "IF HELL BREAKS LOOSE IN JUNE", ALEXANDER BELIEVES THE U.S. WILL BE ALONE.

4. WE ENDORSE HOROWITZ' RATIONALE IN REF C FOR
POSTPONEMENT. WE WILL BE GETTING A READING FROM THE
LEGAL ADVISER ON THE PROCEDURE FOR POSTPONEMENT WHEN
HE RETURNS TOMORROW. IN LIGHT OF THE CONTINUED EMOTIONAL
REACTION BY THE UK, BELGIUM AND ITALY, THE NO CHANGE
DEMARCHE BY THE U.S. (REF D) AMONG OTHER THINGS WILL
TEST THE DURABILITY OF THE IMEC ALLIANCE; THEREFORE,
WE SUGGEST THE U.S. PROPOSE FURTHER CONSULTATIONS ON
STRUCTURE DURING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 14 IN ORDER TO
EXPOUND THE U.S. PLMMOO
UFDOO IMEC MEMBERS OF THE
GOVERNING BODY.CATTO.
UNQUOTE HABIB.

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